## IN THE CLAIMS

1 (Currently Amended). A method comprising:

accessing a configuration space on ~~a platform~~ an integrated component that is part of a processor-based system;

detecting a component external to said ~~platform~~ system, said component intended to operate with said integrated component;

comparing an identifier for said external component with an identifier for said integrated component; and

if said identifiers match, writing information into the configuration spaces of the integrated and external components.

2 (Original). The method of claim 1 including accessing said external component through a bus.

3 (Original). The method of claim 1 wherein accessing a configuration space includes accessing a configuration space on a controller.

4 (Currently Amended). The method of claim 3 including detecting a component external to said ~~platform~~ system from said controller.

5 (Currently Amended). The method of claim 1 including accessing a configuration space on said component external to said ~~platform~~ system.

6 (Currently Amended). The method of claim 5 including accessing a global unique identifier from said configuration space on said ~~platform~~ integrated component.

7 (Currently Amended). The method of claim 6 including accessing a global unique identifier from said configuration space on said component external to said ~~platform~~ system.

8 (Currently Amended). The method of claim 1 including implementing a capability requiring two functions, one of said functions implemented by said ~~platform~~ integrated component and the other of said functions implemented by said component external to said ~~platform~~ system.

9 (Currently Amended). The method of claim 1 wherein writing information includes writing information necessary for the ~~platform~~ integrated component to communicate with said component external to said ~~platform~~ system.

10 (Currently Amended). The method of claim 1 including providing a first function through said ~~platform~~ integrated component and providing a second function through said component external to said ~~platform~~ system and utilizing said functions to implement a wireless network capability.

11 (Currently Amended). An article comprising a medium storing instructions that enable a processor-based system to:

access a configuration space on ~~a platform~~ an integrated component that is part of said system;

detect a component external to said ~~platform~~ system, said component intended to operate with said integrated component;

compare an identifier for said external component with an identifier for said integrated component; and

if said identifiers match, write information into the configuration spaces of the integrated and external components.

12 (Original). The article of claim 11 wherein said medium stores instructions that enable a processor-based system to access said external component through a bus.

13 (Original). The article of claim 11 wherein said medium stores instructions that enable a processor-based system to access a configuration space on a controller.

14 (Currently Amended). The article of claim 13 wherein said medium stores instructions that enable a processor-based system to detect a component external to said ~~platform~~ system from said controller.

15 (Currently Amended). The article of claim 11 wherein said medium stores instructions that enable a processor-based system to access a configuration space on said component external to said ~~platform~~ system.

16 (Currently Amended). The article claim 15 wherein said medium stores instructions that enable a processor-based system to access a global unique identifier from said configuration space on said ~~platform~~ integrated component.

17 (Currently Amended). The article of claim 16 wherein said medium stores instructions that enable a processor-based system to access a global unique identifier from said configuration space on said component external to said ~~platform~~ system.

18 (Currently Amended). The article of claim 11 wherein said medium stores instructions that enable a processor-based system to implement a capability requiring two functions, one of said functions implemented by said ~~platform~~ integrated component and the other of said functions implemented by said component external to said ~~platform~~ system.

19 (Currently Amended). The article of claim 11 wherein said medium stores instructions that enable a processor-based system to write information necessary for the ~~platform~~ integrated component to communicate with said component external to said ~~platform~~ system.

20 (Currently Amended). The article of claim 11 wherein said medium stores instructions that enable a processor-based system to provide a first function through said ~~platform~~ integrated component, provide a second function through said component external to said ~~platform~~ system and utilize said functions to implement a wireless network capability.

21 (Original). A system comprising:

a processor;

a bus coupled to said processor;

a device coupled to said bus, said device including a controller having a configuration space; and

a mating manager to coordinate the implementation of a capability incorporated in part in said controller and in part in a component external to said system.

22 (Original). The system of claim 21 wherein the mating manager accesses a configuration space on said controller, detects a component external to said system having a configuration space, compares an identifier from said external component with an identifier from said configuration space and, if said identifiers match, writes information into the configuration spaces of said controller and said external component.

23 (Original). The system of claim 21 wherein said device implements a network adapter.

24 (Original). The system of claim 23 wherein said controller implements the medium access control and said component external to said system implements a physical layer.

25 (Original). The system of claim 22 wherein said component external to said system is coupled to said system through said bus.

26 (Original). The system of claim 22 wherein said configuration space in said controller includes a global unique identifier and said configuration space on said external component includes a global unique identifier.

27 (Original). The system of claim 26 wherein said mating manager compares said global unique identifiers.